

Notes for Educators

A Newsletter for the ARDMS Educator Community



ARDMS®

SUMMER 2020

Mental Health Resources and Upcoming Webinar: “Leading Your Institution, Your Colleagues and Yourself Through Stressful Times”

Many in our healthcare community have found themselves at the forefront of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis and dealing with challenges from this uncertain time, including mental health concerns. The well-being of our healthcare professionals is critically important to us at ARDMS. Your mental health is just as crucial as your physical health. To help our Registrants through this challenging time, we have compiled resources for you to read, listen and watch on our [Mental Health Resources page](#).

In addition, we want to invite you to our upcoming complimentary webinar: “**Leading Your Institution, Your Colleagues and Yourself Through Stressful Times**” featuring guest speaker Dr. Albert Wu from Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. The live webinar will be held on **August 4, 2020 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm EDT**. Please [reserve your spot](#) today.



Dr. Wu will discuss how healthcare professionals can help themselves and their colleagues by establishing mental health supportive structures that promote practice stability and practitioner resilience for the future. This webinar is brought to you free-of-charge by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS), and our companion councils the Alliance for Physician Certification & Advancement (APCA) and the Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Certification Academy.

[Click Here to Register](#)

When you register for the webinar, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to view the presentation on August 4th. We will also follow up with email reminders before the live event.

ARDMS is pleased to provide this webinar with Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit eligibility. We have partnered with Global Education Group to offer 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credit for watching this webinar (either live or post-event through the recorded link). Review [instructions, requirements and disclosure information](#) to successfully claim your 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credit. Additionally, this webinar is approved by the Society for

Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) for 1.0 SDMS CME Credit for SDMS members. You can only obtain SDMS CME credit if you watch the live webinar. You may only claim one of these CME credits.

We hope you find these [Mental Health Resources](#) to be helpful and insightful, and we encourage you to check back for information on additional programs coming soon, including podcasts with host Tricia Turner, Chair of the ARDMS Council, and guest speaker Dr. Wendy Dean, President, CEO and Co-Founder of The Moral Injury of Healthcare.

Sonography Program Spotlight: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Diagnostic Medical Sonography



Founded as part of the Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee school of Diagnostic Medical Sonography has been a staple in the Southeastern Wisconsin community for more than 30 years. The program first achieved accreditation in 1992 and was recognized with full university sponsorship in 2015.

ARDMS: How does your program prepare students for a post-graduation career?

UWM DMS: Preparing our students to hit the ground running on day one is one of our core ideals. To that end, we provide an extensive clinical experience over a 2-year period including over 1600 scan hours at a wide variety of clinics, hospitals, and health facilities. Graduates of our program are prepared to work in every work environment from large, high level trauma centers to small town clinics.

Of course, the clinical aspect is only half the equation. We work hard to keep our curriculum abreast of the current demands in the clinical environment and provide our students with instruction for every type of exam they might see. Additionally, as a baccalaureate program, we build a strong foundation of instruction that prepares our students for further career advancement into education, management or wherever their professional path may take them in the future.

Thanks to the breadth and depth of our clinical and didactic curriculum, our students consistently find employment and can start working the day they graduate.

ARDMS: How does your program adapt to and prepare for innovation in the Sonography field?

UWM DMS: We tell our students that becoming a sonographer means entering a lifelong relationship with the ever-evolving world of medical technology. Innovation in our field is relentless, from advances in machine technology to the changing protocols and techniques of clinical practice. The easiest way to stay current with this change is to keep your hand on the probe. Although it isn't always easy with the time required to run a program, our faculty still works as sonographers and belongs to and participates in professional societies both national and local. This along with a lot of reading helps us to stay current and adapt to evolution in the field.

This is also an area where we benefit from the deep pool of resources and thought available to us at an R1 research institution. Some of the future advances in technology and practice might have their seeds planted in labs and classrooms just down the hall from us at any given time.

[Continue Reading](#)



Does your Sonography program have deep ties in your community? Is your program leading the way in innovation for education through COVID and beyond? Do you want your program to get the recognition it deserves? If you said "YES" to any of these questions, fill out and submit [this form](#) to EducatorResources@ARDMS.org!

Educator Discussion Series: How COVID is changing sonography programs

With changes taking place all over the world due to COVID-19, ARDMS decided to invite educators from across the country to participate in our first ever Educator Discussion Series. This was an opportunity for educators to come together and discuss how their programs have adapted to the shelter-at-home orders that were issued earlier this year.

There were a total of eight sessions that were offered during the months of June and July hosting 45 educators from 35 different schools and programs. Upon registration, we asked the educators to come prepared to discuss the following two questions during these sessions:

- How has your classroom changed in response to the COVID-19 outbreak?
- What will your classroom look like when campuses reopen?

A common theme among the educators was that most programs changed their classrooms immediately after Spring Break and switched to a completely virtual format by holding courses online. Unfortunately, the shutdown led to clinicals and labs being completely cancelled, and many educators expressed concern that their students would be unable to complete their hours and therefore delay their graduation. The programs have used a variety of e-learning platforms for their didactic courses including Blackboard, Collaborate, Zoom, Google Classrooms, Canvas, SonoWorld and Simtics. In addition to the

various e-learning platforms, many educators also utilized additional online tools for test proctoring such as ProctorU, Verificient, Respondus LockDown Browser, and Honorlock.

Many programs voiced that they would require their students to self-monitor for symptoms upon returning to in-person classes. Schools that have already reopened are requiring students and staff to have their temperatures checked outside the door of buildings before entering and limiting the number of students allowed in the lab at one time. For those programs who are self-monitoring, educators mentioned that they use tools like CastleBranch or Google Forms to have their students log their temperature and to report if they have travelled out of state. Clinical rotations are slowly accepting students for several schools but certain specialties, like OB/GYN, have been having difficulties finding patients to scan. Masks are being required across the board for all programs and any in-person learning that adheres to CDC guidelines.

Overall, the feedback from the participants was very positive and they appreciated the time to dialogue among colleagues. We hope to do another round of these sessions in the Fall and hope you can join the conversation!

SPI Certificates Are Going Digital!



With the office transition to 100% remote due to COVID-19, ARDMS has been unable to mail out SPI Certificates to new earners. In early August, ARDMS will begin offering Candidates the opportunity to print their own SPI certificate. Once a Candidate passes the SPI examination, the certificate will be available to print through [MY ARDMS](#).

COVID-19 Updates

For COVID-19 information links and resources curated by sonography organizations, [click here](#). To see how COVID-19 is impacting ARDMS, [click here](#).



Certification Corner

Just a reminder...

When students apply for the SPI examination under the SPI Requirement, they must submit the following documents:

An official or unofficial transcript (see transcript requirements below) reflecting successful completion of a graded general, medical, or sonographic college, post-secondary, or higher education physics class (with a grade of C or above).

OR

A CME certificate denoting successful completion of a general, medical, or sonographic physics seminar, physics review course, or physics correspondence course, denoting a minimum award of 12 ARDMS-accepted CME credits. The certificate must meet ARDMS CME documentation requirements (visit [ARDMS.org/CME](https://www.ardms.org/CME) to view ARDMS-accepted CMEs). The CME credits must be earned within two (2) years prior to application submission.

AND

A copy of an unexpired government-issued photo identification (ID) with signature; the first and last names on the ID must exactly match the first and last names in your ARDMS/APCA record.

Transcript Requirements:

- Name of Applicant and school must be printed on the transcript; handwritten information will not be accepted.
- The class or course name must specifically indicate Physics, Physical Principles and/or Instrumentation in the title and be printed on the transcript. Supplementary information will not be accepted.
- Transcript can be unofficial or official.
- If submitting a foreign transcript or degree, a formal course by course foreign transcript evaluation report must accompany the application summary and indicate the above requirements.
- Transcripts indicating only a number grade must include a grade key printed on the transcript showing the equivalent letter grade. Supplementary information will not be accepted.
- A grade report will not be accepted in lieu of the transcript (unofficial or official).

The above-listed documentation should be uploaded to their [MY ARDMS/MY APCA](#) accounts after they apply for the examination. To upload application documents, they must log in to their account. They'll be able to access the **Upload Documents** page by clicking the **My Resources** tab.

Bulk Payments:

Due to COVID19, the Inteleos office continues to be closed, and all staff is working remotely. A few months ago, we opened an exception to allow programs to pay for students' applications in bulk using a credit card authorization form. However, we understand that this is not feasible for all programs; therefore, if you are unable to pay using a credit card, you are welcome to mail a check to us. A designated Inteleos Accounting Department team member will be retrieving mailed checks from the office once a month. **Please do not mail in applicant documentation along with payment; all documentation should be uploaded to the applicant's [MY ARDMS](#) or [MY APCA](#) account.**

To ensure your check is processed promptly after it is picked up from the office, please address the envelopes to:

Inteleos
Attn. **Accounts Receivable**
1401 Rockville Pike
Suite 600
Rockville, MD 20852-1402

Thank for your cooperation during these unprecedented times. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by calling 1-800-541-9754, option 1.



Looking for a Job in Ultrasound?

Here are two featured open positions:

[FT Ultrasound Tech \(Leadville, CO\)](#)
[Medical Sonographer - OB/GYN \(Asheville, NC\)](#)

To view more, visit [UltrasoundJOBS by ARDMS](#) and search sonography-specific positions in your area. [Create an account](#), upload your resume, browse the Career Learning Center and build custom job alerts to fit your needs.

Hiring? Post a Job!

[UltrasoundJOBS by ARDMS](#) will help you find the right professional by delivering enhanced features including a Feature Jobs option and Ultrasound SmartBrief Add-on. [Create an account today!](#)

Volunteer with ARDMS/APCA!

- Develop Exams
- Communicate about ARDMS
- Mentor Students

[Click here](#) for information on volunteering with ARDMS or [click here](#) for information on volunteering as a physician with APCA.



[Sign-up](#) for the complimentary e-newsletter bringing you the most important and timely news stories about the sonography industry to over 40,000 subscribers. [Ultrasound SmartBrief](#) is brought to you exclusively by the ARDMS.

To the heroes who don't wear capes...thank you for your commitment to your patients, for your sacrifice, and for your hard work during COVID-19.



The staff at the **American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS)**, the **Alliance for Physician Certification & Advancement (APCA)** and the **Point-of-Care**

Ultrasound Certification Academy would like to offer this video to show you our gratitude. Sonographers, you are invaluable and appreciated!

We Want Your Input for Future Notes for Educators!



Have an article or topic that you would like us to cover in an upcoming Notes for Educators?

Send an email to communications@inteleos.org and tell us what you want to hear about today!



Notes for Educators
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